

APPLICANTS: ECKHOUSE, Shimon et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/505,998
FILED: February 17, 2000
Page 3

not narrow the scope of the pending claims. Accordingly, the addition of claims 29 and 30 is not subject to the complete bar against the use of the Doctrine of Equivalents as outlined in Festo Corporation v. Shoketsu Kinsoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., Ltd.

THE INTERVIEW

Initially, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Eric F. Winakur for granting and attending an interview, with Applicants' representatives, Caleb Pollack (Reg. No. 37,192), Zeev Pearl and Mirella Moshe on January 7, 2001. During the interview, a proposed claim (now new claim 29) was discussed, as were Examiner's cited references, U.S. Patent No. 5,344,418 to Ghaffari and U.S. Patent No. 4,608,978 to Rohr and prior art reference U.S. Patent No. 3,818,914 to Bender provided by Applicants. During the interview Applicants' representatives pointed out the distinctions between what is taught in the prior art references and Applicants' claimed invention. The Interview was concluded with Examiner's interview summary stating that a method, as presented by Applicants, was allowable over the art of record. Accordingly claims 29 and 30 are presented herein.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections Under the Doctrine of Double Patenting

Claims 1-28 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1 and 2 of U.S. Patent No. 5,620,478.

Claims 1-28 have been canceled without prejudice, thus rendering the rejections moot.

APPLICANTS: ECKHOUSE, Shimon et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/505,998
FILED: February 17, 2000
Page 4

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-15, 21, 22 and 25-28 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out the and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicants regard as the invention.

Claim 1-15, 21, 22 and 25-28 have been canceled without prejudice, thus rendering the rejections moot.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 15-18 are rejected under 35 USC 101, because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 15-18 have been canceled without prejudice, thus rendering the rejections moot. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully assert that while the current pending claims include the term "skin" the claims do not include skin as part of their claimed subject matter and therefore the current pending claims should not be subject to the Examiner's 35 USC 101.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 5-13, 16-19, 21-24, 27 and 28 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Ghaffari (U.S. Pat. 5,344,418).

Claims 1 and 23-28 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Rohr (U.S. Pat. 4,608,978).

Claims 1, 2, 5-13, 16-19 and 21-28 have been canceled without prejudice, thus rendering the rejections moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicants note the Examiner's citation of prior art to complete the record.

Applicants are concurrently filing an Information Disclosure Statement to complete

51

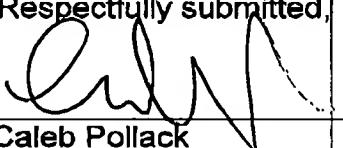
APPLICANTS: ECKHOUSE, Shimon et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/505,998
FILED: February 17, 2000
Page 5

the record. Applicants respectfully assert that the pending claims are allowable over the art of record and over the concurrently disclosed prior art.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any additional fees associated with this paper to Deposit Account No. 05-0649.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks claim 29 is deemed to be allowable. Claim 30 depends upon an allowable base claim and is therefore also deemed to be allowable. Favorable consideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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